

CAUCASIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

Shaumian. The Soviet of Baku challenged the authority of the free Republic of Azerbaijan, for whose prosperity the control of Baku was of vital importance.

Meanwhile the Germans occupied Georgia and, according to a deal with Lenin, were supposed to penetrate further east and take military and economic control of Baku.- The Turks, on the other hand, having occupied some Georgian border districts, wistfully viewed Baku as their goal.⁸ In order to fulfill their plan, the Turks prepared the ground by propaganda among the Mohammedan elements of Transcaucasia. Their agitation among the Tatars of Azerbaijan was one of the reasons why the Transcaucasian Federation could not maintain itself and had to be divided along ethnic and religious lines. Eventually the Turks organized, with the help of the Azerbaijan Republic, an auxiliary All-Islam Army. This army, together with regular Turkish troops, had the objective of conquer-

2 On August 37, 1918, a supplementary treaty to the Brest-Litovsk Treaty was signed at Berlin between the Imperial German Government and the Government of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic. Part VI entitled "The Caucasus" was composed of the following two articles:

"Art. 13—Russia agrees to Germany's recognizing Georgia as an independent State.

"Art. 14—Germany will give no assistance to any third Power in any military-operations in the Caucasus outside Georgia or the districts mentioned in Article 4, Paragraph 3, of the Peace Treaty [these were Kars, Ardahan, and Batum]. She will also take measures to prevent the military forces of any third Power in the Caucasus over-stepping the following lines: The Kuban, from its mouth to Petropavlovskaje; from there onwards, the boundaries of the district Shemakha to Agrioba; thence a straight line to the point where the boundaries of the districts of Baku, Shemakha, and Kuban meet; thence along the northern boundary of the district of Baku to the sea.

"Russia will do her utmost to further the production of crude oil and crude oil products in the Baku district, and will supply to Germany a

quarter of the
 amount produced, or at least a number of tons, to be agreed
 upon later, per
 month. In so far as the quantities produced in the Baku district
 are not sufficient
 to supply this number of tons, or must be used for other
 purposes, they will be
 supplemented by quantities produced elsewhere. The price will
 be reckoned by
 the price of the coal Russia is allowed to have in accordance
 with Article is, Par-
 agraph 3, and, moreover, by the amount of goods to be supplied
 by Russia to
 Germany, in accordance with Article 3, Para, s, of the Russo-
 German Financial
 Agreement of this date" (quoted from J. W. Wheeler-Bennett,
The Forgotten
Peace [New York. 1939], p. 433).

s The differences that arose between the Germans and the
 Turks concerning
 military operations in the Caucasus are described by General
 Liman von Sanders
 in his book *Five Years in Turkey* (Annapolis. 1927), pp. 196, 341-
 246, 368-369.